

REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby cancels claims 2 and 3, and presents original claims 1-3 again as new claims 4-6, respectively, modified to address the indefiniteness rejection as to claims 2 and 3 in the original Office Action. Regarding the indefiniteness rejection of claim 1, claim 4 employs language consistent with the description at the top of page 7 of the specification. The "depth" recited in claim 1 is measured perpendicularly into the page on which Fig. 2 is presented. Thus, the "rubber volume" recited in claim 1 is obtained simply by multiplying a sum of the product of δ and T over a width (or length) of 50 mm in Fig. 2 by 50 mm as the "depth size".

In view of the foregoing amendments and explanation, Applicant respectfully submits that the previous indefiniteness rejection is overcome.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating in the previous Office Action that claims 1-3 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the §112, second paragraph, rejection. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 4-6 are in condition for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue at the earliest possible time.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
U.S. SERIAL NO. 10/501,990

ART UNIT 1733
Q82635

Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications to prosecute the invention of Group II (amended claims 2 and 3 in the September 15, 2006 Amendment).

If the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss this application, she is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local exchange listed below.

Please charge any fees due (with the exception of the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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